



“Gobernados por ladrones” [Governed by thieves]

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"Gobernados por ladrones" [Governed by thieves] is the headline of one newspaper's front page displayed in one of the many kiosks around Lima, Peru. My research focuses on the effect of corruption news on people's sentiment about political institutions and the functioning of democracy: What happens with people's trust in political institutions after a revelation of big corruption scandal? How much is the sensitivity of people's perspective of the functioning of democracy after a higher coverage of corruption-related news? Using Peruvian newspapers' front pages to construct a measure of corruption news coverage and the Peruvian Household Survey to evaluate citizens' perceptions, I pretend to answer those questions. My preliminary result shows that the latest corruption scandal revealed in Peru – related to the Brazilian constructing company Odebrecht - seems to have a negative repercussion on people's confidence in most of the democratic institutions analyzed as well as in the operation of democracy.